* Networks are being optimized at both the places from time to time.
* A new WLL Network of 400K lines each of 2000 IX type is under advance stage of installation in Delhi and Mumbai with latest features and likely to be commissioned by September, 2005. Accordingly, Garuda Mobile Services are expected to further improve in these two cities of MTNL.

Leakage of information by BPO

†365. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian call centres are selling financial information of many persons having accounts in the banks of Britain;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government with regard to such call centres;

(c) whether Government have also confirmed that such information is being sent to other countries of the world; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by Government to check such activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) The Indian web-marketing firms or the BPO in IT sector is a de-licensed activity. The BPO operations are governed by a legal contract between the parties. Government does not directly regulate such activities.

A report had appeared on June 23, 2005 in The Sun (UK), resulting from an investigation by their reporter, about the alleged sale of customer data by an employee of a call centre near Delhi. In April 2005 it was alleged that three former employees of a Pune based company did some illegal transaction of funds of customers. It was found that in this case, the accused have committed fraud in their individual capacity and the BPO organisation is not involved. This will not have an adverse impact on software business of the country.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) Section 66 of the Information Technology Act, 2000 provides for stringent penalties for infringement of such incidents including breaching of confidentiality, privacy and hacking of a computer system.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Release of telephone connection in Uttar Pradesh

†366. SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons in the waiting list for telephone connection in Uttar Pradesh as on date, district wise; and

(b) by when the persons registered in the waiting list are likely to get telephone connection?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) There are two Telecom Circles namely, UP (East), UP (West) Telecom Circle in Uttar Pradesh. As on 30.06.2005, the total number of applicants in waiting list in Uttar Pradesh is 1,58,403. The circle-wise waiting list is given below:—

Name of Circle	Waiting List
U.P. (East)	1,03,524
U.P. (West)	54,879
Total	1,58,403

The district-wise details of waiting list of UP (E) Telecom Circle and UP (W) Telecom Circle are given in Statement-I and II respectively (*See* below).

(b) BSNL has plans to provide telephone connection on demand in the entire State of Uttar Pradesh by December, 2007.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.